

The Alexandria Gazette

SATURDAY EVENING, NOV'R. 18.

The newspapers are reporting military movements on the Rio Grande, activity in fitting Government vessels for sea, certain rumored "givings out" of Count Montholon, the French Minister in Washington, the sending of a new U. S. Minister to the Republic of Mexico, Gen. Grant's public endorsement of sympathy for Mexico, and hopes for her deliverance, &c., &c., as all indicating trouble with France, in relation to Mexican affairs. "We shall see." But we not believe in the trouble, yet.

A meeting of the friends of negro suffrage has been held in Washington, which was addressed by Mr. Hahn, of Louisiana, and a Mr. Day, who has figured in Washington, lately.

THE FAMOUS SPOTSYLVANIA TREE.—"The stump of the famous tree cut down by bullets at Spotsylvania Court House last May has been appropriately mounted and placed upon the porch at the War Department, as indisputable evidence of the truth of a statement which has been generally discredited in reference to the incessant storm of lead upon the Second Corps' front during the 2nd of May. The stump measures nearly two feet in diameter, and is presented to the War Department by General Miles, who commanded a division of the Second Corps during the eventful Spotsylvania days."—[Washington telegram to the N. York Herald.]

We visited the spot from whence this stamp was cut, a few weeks after the battle. It is about a mile and a quarter from the C. H., and just inside of the outer line of the Confederate earthworks. The rain of Minnie balls along that part of the line stands unequalled, we believe, in time's history. The Confederate line was, unwisely, it is said, run out at that point, to take advantage of a small ridge, whilst a better line lay a few hundred yards farther back and within. It was owing to this peculiar line, which Gen. Ed. Johnson's force occupied, that the U. S. troops were enabled to cut them off and capture so many. The U. S. soldiers were then driven back, after a fiercely contested fight, outside of the Confederate lines, and it was in their effort to retake the line that the storm of lead was poured out in such fury.

The Confederates lay behind their earth works and were thus saved from what would otherwise have proved annihilation, and only showed themselves, we judged from appearances, when charges were made by the Federal soldiers, which must have been repulsed with terrible slaughter.

The tree itself—a part of which is on exhibition in Washington—was just inside of the Confederate lines. It was in full foliage, with large branches. The earth works were some four feet high. The effect of the Minnie balls was to be seen from two feet above to two feet below the point which ultimately gave way—when held by not over two inches of solid wood! When it fell, two of the Confederates were badly wounded—one of whom we believe died.

There were a dozen trees in the same locality, that had been cut off solely by leaden bullets, but the one referred to was the largest. We saw it measured: a little over 22 inches in diameter, and 67 inches in circumference.

This was cut down by leaden bullets. The work of shells was of a different order, and there can be no mistake of the fact. Indeed it was at a point where cannon could not scarcely have been used owing to the dense growth of small pines immediately in front, and which were still standing when we made our visit a few weeks after the battle.

Mr. Sanford, of the C. H., cut the stump down, and removed it to his house. The other, or upper part of the tree, which was just as much of a curiosity, was then still lying inside of the lines, with huge branches attached, telling in mute language, by its scarred and perforated limbs of the awful storm through which it passed on that eventful day.—[Fred. Herald.]

MEMORY.—A lady in Boston, now nearly seventy years of age, can repeat all the Psalms of David, and Solomon's Proverbs, by heart. No matter at what verse one may begin, she will take up the cue and proceed to the end of the chapter. We were reminded of this singular fact by a notice in a contemporary of the widow of Nicholas Chase, an old lady of 87, who lives at Cuttyhunk, who can repeat page after page of the books which interested her in youth, and is never better pleased than when she can get some young person to listen to her.—[Boston Journal.]

The Albany Argus bitterly says:—"The body of Preston King has not been recovered. Indeed, no effort was made in time, the zeal of his friends being first directed to getting the office of the dead man! They rushed to the telegraph and the post office and commenced fishing, not for the body, but for the spoils, with infinite enthusiasm! Indeed, it is said, that the pursuit of his fat salary and perquisites commenced before his death, and with the first indications of his mental weakness.

TELEGRAPHIC.

[By the U. S. Telegraph; office Marshall House.]

EXTENSIVE FIRE IN FREDERICKSBURG.

FREDERICKSBURG, Va., Nov. 18.—A fire broke out last night in the Shakespeare House, which, extending to the two adjoining buildings, were soon a smoking mass of ruins.

Several persons barely escaped with their lives, having to jump from the 3d story of the Shakespeare House. The loss was heavy, with little or no insurance.

The destroyed buildings were owned respectively by Peter Goolrich, J. J. Young, of this place, and Dr. M. A. Blankman, of Richmond. All efforts to save the burning buildings were useless, owing to the absence of fire engines. The water had to be passed from the river, a distance of 250 yards, by hand, in water buckets. But little or no good could be accomplished in this manner, although all worked hard, particularly the military, who under the direction of Gen. Harris, commanding this department, rendered all the aid in their power.

JUDGE UNDERWOOD.—The Richmond Sentinel of the 14th says:

Judge Underwood in Court yesterday, made some remarks in vindication he said of the officers of his court who had been attacked in the press for an undue zeal in hunting out subjects for confiscation libels, and pressing proceedings against them violating them in costs, &c. He denied that they had been thus over zealous, and affirmed indeed that their remissness had been complained of to him (Judge U.) by the Attorney General of the U. S. who said there had been too few confiscations in Virginia. He said also that Gen. Grant had specially requested or directed that a certain editor should be prosecuted for libel, which request had not been complied with. He denied further that the number of libels for confiscation had been greater in Virginia than anywhere else; and instanced New Orleans and Louisville, as having witnessed much more stringent proceedings.

STEAM FIRE ENGINE.

MR. EDITOR: Through the Gazette I would desire to call the special attention of the Committee of the City Council to the imperative necessity of having a good and sufficient Steam Fire Engine for the city. Most competent judges who witnessed the performance of that little gaudy, but not powerful engine, that puffed and snorted away at a furious rate at the late fire, which destroyed a portion of the houses on that classic ground, are of opinion that that engine will not do. My poor judgment leans the same way most decidedly. If we are to have an engine, let us have a first class one; and I think that all will admit that something must be done speedily to render the Fire Department efficient, or we may be awakened one of these fine nights by an alarm, and find, to our lasting sorrow, whole squares going and gone. I would suggest that the Committee open a correspondence with the Tredgar Iron Works, Richmond, and get a first class engine. Another good thing will be accomplished by this; our own mechanics will be sustained and encouraged. Look to it, gentlemen of the Committee, forthwith.

MARRIED.

On Wednesday last, by the Rev. Mr. Maury, Mr. ALBERT BOTTES, to Miss ELLEN YOUNG, daughter of Mr. J. Young, all of Fredericksburg.

On Monday evening last, by the same, Mr. JOSEPH CLAY, of Georgia, to Miss MARY E. HERNDON, daughter of Dr. B. S. Herndon, of Fredericksburg.

DIED.

Found dead this morning, in his chamber, Mr. JOHN BOYER, aged 81 years. The funeral will take place to-morrow afternoon, at 3 o'clock, from the residence of his son-in-law, H. Patton, No. 210 King street, to which the friends and acquaintances of the family are invited to attend.

On Monday afternoon, Mrs. ELIZABETH M. McPHAIL, wife of Capt. Robert McPhail, and daughter of the late Capt. Louis Willis Daingerfield, of Spotsylvania county, Va.

There will be preaching at the First Presbyterian Church, to-morrow, morning and night.

ATTENTION! MEMBERS OF THE FRIENDSHIP FIRE CO., NO. 1.—You are hereby requested to attend, a called meeting of the company, on TUESDAY EVENING, the 21st inst., at 7 o'clock p. m. It is hoped that all the members will be present, as business of great importance will be brought before the meeting. By order of the President, no 18-3t

HOUSE AND LOT FOR SALE.—Under authority of a deed of trust from James W. Reed and wife to me, dated 18th June, 1864, and duly recorded, I will offer for sale, by auction, on THURSDAY, the 30th instant, at 11 o'clock a. m., in front of the premises, a two-story BRICK DWELLING HOUSE AND LOT OF GROUND, in the city of Alexandria, situated on the west side of Water st., between Franklin and Jefferson sts.—the same property which was conveyed to said Reed by S. J. Reed and wife.

Terms:—One-third of the purchase money to be paid down on the day of sale, one-third at one year, and the remainder at 18 months, with interest, secured to the satisfaction of the party secured by said deed of trust. Should default be made in complying with these terms in any particular, the property to be resold at the risk and expense of the defaulting purchaser, on ten days' notice.

R. JOHNSTON, no 18-eotd [Comm.] Trustee.

NEWSPAPERS, for Wrapping Paper, for sale at this office. nov 17-3t

The following instructions in regard to the redemption of mutilated national bank notes, issued by the Comptroller of the Currency, will be of general interest:

First—The notes are to be redeemed by the banks by which they are respectively issued, and should not be returned to this office in sums less than \$500, or even multiples of that amount.

Second—Mutilated notes, which have been torn or defaced, will be received when presented by the bank that issued them, provided all the fragments are returned, and the engraving and signatures are not so far obliterated that it cannot be determined by what bank the notes were issued.

Third—Fragments should be redeemed by banks in full when accompanied by an affidavit stating the cause and manner of mutilation, and that the missing part of the notes is totally destroyed. Exceptional cases may occur in which no affidavit can be obtained and where no reasonable doubts can exist in regard to the entire destruction or irreparable damage to missing portions of notes, as by fire, accidents, &c. When evidence of identity is ample by the signature of one or both officers, or title or locality of the bank and the denomination of the note, where the integrity of the bill-holder is unexceptionable, and where no question could arise in regard to a fraudulent or improper use of missing parts, in such instances judgment discretion must necessarily be exercised by the officers of the banks. It is, however, advised that such notes be received at their full face value and a perfect note given therefor, a record being preserved of the fact to be sent to this office with the mutilated note, when returned for redemption by the bank; in which case full credit will be allowed in this Department.

Fourth—When no satisfaction can be obtained in regard to missing parts, and a possibility exists that any improper use can be made of the same, it is recommended that a proportionate value only be allowed, estimating this by comparison of the portion returned with the missing portion.

John W. McQue, who had been sentenced to the penitentiary for life for killing a Federal soldier during the war, has been pardoned and released from prison. He was a Confederate soldier in Mosby's command at the time the deed for which he was arraigned was committed. But he was tried in Maryland under the administration of General Lew. Wallace, and sentenced as above.

A young man named Berkeley Gibson, a native of Richmond, Va., aged 16 years, and who says he is a son of the late Surgeon Gen. Gibson, formerly in the Confederate service, has been arrested in N. Y., charged with stealing \$920 from a friend named Smith. Gibson has confessed his guilt, and says that both Smith and himself were intoxicated at the time, and that of the sum stolen he lost \$600 in a gambling saloon.

Rezin D. Shepherd, Esq., a wealthy, benevolent and liberal citizen of Jefferson county, died at his residence on Saturday last, and his remains were interred in the family burying ground on Monday.—His liberality is seen in the large and handsome town hall in Shepherdstown, now approaching completion, and in many other works.

The French Courier, at New York, affects to be indignant at the appointment of General Logan as U. S. Minister to the Republic of Mexico, and pronounces it a "provocation."

It is said the Indians are renewing their depredations on the Western plains.

It is reported that Gen. Logan will not accept the appointment of Minister to the Republic of Mexico.

Members of Congress are beginning to arrive in Washington.

Mr. Alexander Garrett, for thirty years a merchant in Richmond, died in that city on Monday, of apoplexy.

THE GREAT BOOK OF THE DAY—just published and for sale at FRENCH'S Book and Stationery Store, No. 104 King st.

"OUR MUTUAL FRIEND," complete in one volume, by Chas. Dickens—Price, paper covers, \$1; fine edition, bound in cloth, \$2.50.

Belle Boyd, in camp and prison, written by herself, 1 vol. 12 mo., \$2.

Janet Strong, by Virginia A. Townsend, 1 vol., 12 mo., cloth, \$1.75.

Macaria, by the author of Beulah, 1 vol., 12 mo., cloth, \$2. [no 18-1w] GEO. E. FRENCH.

LAND FOR SALE.—I offer for sale a farm of TWO HUNDRED AND FORTY ACRES, 2 miles south of Alexandria. The land lies beautifully, with a southern exposure, and is in fine condition, as is evidenced by the growing crops. The outside enclosure is in tolerable order. There is a young peach orchard in full bearing, and other choice fruits.

It may be divided into two farms, with abundance of wood and water on each, with building sites unsurpassed by any in Virginia for beauty of scenery. I know of no place offering greater inducements as a dairy and market farm or vineyard.

Terms accommodating. A credit of four years from the 1st of March, 1866, may be had upon \$4,000 of the purchase money, interest payable annually. For further information apply to the subscriber, No. 52, Washington street, Alexandria, Va.

ep 21-2aw W. S. KEMPER.

SEED WHEAT.—100 Bushels BLUE STEM WHITE, in store and for sale by THOS. PERRY. sep 2-

CHARLES WHITTLESEY, ATTORNEY AT LAW, AND CLAIM AGENT.

Attends to law business in this and adjoining counties, and District of Columbia; also, pays particular attention to Collection of Claims of all kinds against the United States, including Pensions, Back Pay, Bounties, Prize Monies, &c. Address by letter, (stating claim,) or call at his office, over the market, Alexandria, Va. oc 30-if3m*

"MARTHA WASHINGTON" HAIR RESTORER.—The best thing for the Hair in the market. Two articles combined in one. A perfect Hair Restorer and Hair Dresser. Sold by all Druggists. The trade supplied by HENRY COOK, No. 39, King st., Alexandria, Va. Warranted to do all we claim—or money refunded, after using two bottles. Ladies try it. nov 6-3m

GREAT BARGAINS!

SELLING OFF! SELLING OFF!!

An extensive stock of WALL PAPER, WINDOW SHADES and FIXTURES, Picture Cords and Tassels, &c., can be purchased at greatly reduced prices, at the store of the undersigned, No. 171, King st., fourth door above Washington st., preparatory to closing business. Those who have pictures at the above named store to be framed, will oblige by calling for them at an early day.

nov 17-tf JEFFERSON TACEY.

HORSE STOLEN.—Was stolen from the stable of the subscriber, at West End, on the night of Tuesday, the 14th, a DARK BAY HORSE, between 6 and 7 years old, with a scar on his left rump. A reward of \$25 will be paid for the recovery of the animal, and \$100 for the conviction of the thief.

N. RUBEN & CO. no 17-1w* West End, Fairfax co., Va.

20 BUS. PRIME CLOVER SEED.

20 Timothy 50 Peachblow POTATOES. For sale by THOMAS PERRY, no 17-eotw No. 8 Prince street.

CLOAKS, CLOAKING CLOTHS, AND HOOP SKIRTS.

Velvet Plush,	Moscow Beaver,
Castor Cloth,	Frosted Beaver,
Chinchilla,	English Beaver,
Astracana,	Petersham,
Moss Beaver,	Waterproof,
German Beaver,	White Opera,

In Basques and Sacks of long, short, and medium lengths, and of every conceivable style and color of cloth. Also, all of the above cloth by the yard for Ladies, Gents, Misses and Boys. Cloaks and Coats, with trimmings to match, forming the most complete stock of Cloaks and Cloaking Cloths we have ever offered to the public, together with 50 dozen Hoop Skirts, made to our own order, and of very superior quality, in every variety of style, from the smallest to the ten-foot skirt.

Having taken our entire second floor for the above goods, we now present a stock not equalled in variety by any in this city, and we respectfully solicit all our friends to give us an early call before purchasing.

M. TAYLOR & CO. No. 42, Centre Market Space, Washington. nov 17-ly

H. O. CLAUGHTON.

ATTORNEY AND COUNSELLOR AT LAW.

Office in GAZETTE BUILDING, Prince St., ALEXANDRIA, VA.

will practice in the Courts of Alexandria, Washington City, and the adjacent counties. nov 11-1m*

HUNTER & CO. RECTIFIERS and Dealers in WHISKY, BRANDY, WINES, GIN, AND COMMISSION GROCERS. sep 29-tf No. 5, Janney's Wharf, Alex., Va.

H. ERIC SMITH,

Having opened a GROCERY AND FEED STORE, No. 289, King street, invites his friends and the public generally to examine, his new stock before purchasing elsewhere. Country Produce bought and sold. oc 23-1m

150,000 NO. 1 and 2 SAWED SHINGLES, just received and for sale by SMOOT & PERRY. No. 41, south Union st. nov 16 tf

SALUBRIA AT PRIVATE SALE.—I will sell privately, Salubria, situated in Loudoun county, three and a half miles east of Snickersville, on the turnpike road leading to Alexandria, in a very fertile neighborhood. The FARM contains THREE HUNDRED SIXTY-NINE AND THREE FOURTH ACRES, about eighty acres in fine Timber, the remainder arable, well set in grass, of five years standing, except one field of blue grass, of twenty acres, twenty eight years old, which has been used entirely for grazing. The farm is well watered, but not subject to overflow or injury by the same. There is no farm in the county more productive in wheat, corn, &c., and decidedly the best for grass and grazing that I am acquainted with. The buildings are excellent; a STONE HOUSE, three stories high, very convenient and well arranged, and a fine Granary, capable of containing three thousand bushels of grain, all other necessary out-houses, but a barn recently burnt. There is a very FINE ORCHARD of select fruit of every variety. I deem it useless to say more in regard to the property, presuming those wishing to purchase will call and examine for themselves. It is seldom such property comes into market. A large proportion of the purchase money will not be required, perhaps, for many years.

ALPHEUS GIBSON, M. D. Loudoun county, sep 25-lawtnov 25

GREGORY & PAUL,

WHOLESALE DEALERS IN GROCERIES, FLOUR AND BACON. Nos 27 and 29, King street, ALEXANDRIA, VA. aug 11-tf